

From: Gail P. Davis
To: Mike Powell, Kabernaty@fcc.gov, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 3:02 PM
Subject: Regulation

Code Pink sends a pink slip

YOU ARE FIRED!

Your performance is unsatisfactory because you insist on the revision of media ownership regulations without thorough research and adequate public consultation.

From: Gaia Guirl-Stearley
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, kjmwebb@fcc.gov, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 3:16 PM
Subject: Bad for you, good for me

Hi,

Though I am writing to formally express my opposition to your plan to consolidate all media into one corporate meatball, it occurs to me that when you do, I will remove both TVs from my home. That way, I will have more time and energy for political organizing, reading, and listening to the thunder of voices of dissent rising in this country and elsewhere. I won't pretend that I can change your mind. I'll just remind you that for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

So go ahead. Give America one more reason to unplug.

Gaia C. Guirl
Oak Park, IL

CC: mikedmalloy@aol.com

From: Aute L. Carr
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 3:22 PM
Subject: Forthcoming decisions of the FCC

Dear Commissioner:

As a former antitrust attorney with the Justice Department, I am distressed to see our government abandoning its longstanding support for a competitive system by bowing to a few powerful media companies seeking to expand their control and influence. Your commission was established to make sure that these media barons couldn't get a stranglehold on the flow of information in the United States. I have seen what large, powerful corporations can do to their small competitors. Today a powerful corporation with even 50% control in an area can exercise virtual monopoly control. The Commission will do serious damage to information flow and availability if it allows a few dominant media companies to expand their present ownership and control.

Aute L. Carr

Sun City, Arizona

From: Jerry
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 3:39 PM
Subject: <No Subject>

Please vote NO on this big corporation ownership of the broadcast media.
Jerry Bryant

From: ndurovic
To: Mike Powell
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 4:09 PM
Subject: Public Comment on a Pending Matter

Dear FCC Commissioners and Chairman Powell,

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to delay the unnecessarily rushed vote on media ownership scheduled for June 2nd.

As we have been noticing during this past year, the bulk of the US population, far from culling their information from the enormous variety of sources available on the Internet, still continue to get their news from the networks and their local affiliates, both in radio and on TV. It is to prevent ownership condensation in these two areas that the regulation must be kept--a provision that the current FCC rules clearly foresaw. Please continue keeping these safeguards active.

Paradoxically today's excess of information leads to people being less and less able to keep track of this variety, and to a tendency to stick with what already is--which in this case is an (at least somewhat) regulated media environment in which markets aren't completely dominated by one owner. It will be too late to re-regulate and reconstruct this media landscape once it has been destroyed by the 8 or so dominant media corporations. Finally: the airwaves are one of our resources, like forests and water--we should know when you guys alter them, and have a say in how this is done.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Best,

Natasa Durovicova
Editor

CC: Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps

From: DCADONAU@aol.com
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 4:10 PM
Subject: RE: 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review

Madame and Gentlemen:

I am one of those ordinary people, sitting in a state way across the country, who needs to let you know how I feel about the FCC action that would allow further media corporation consolidations. (June 2nd meeting)

I ask you NOT to let this happen.

Free speech and TRUE speech is so vitally important to the health of this nation. Allowing fewer media corporations to control the dissemination of information opens the door to abuse of that responsibility. It will happen. Sooner or later, it will happen. If it already hasn't.

I love this country and believe in its Constitution. I have had mixed feelings about the direction the current government is taking this country since the Towers fell. I often feel like the news I am getting is only a cut above corporate advertising. I often feel that the government (for whom I am a client) has manipulated me through information just as corporations (for whom I am a customer) attempt to manipulate me through advertising. The advertising I can handle, but misinformation is a great deal harder to identify. The truth doesn't always come out of the biggest mouths.

I am strongly in favor of independent media voices. These are probably the smaller voices which will come at the truth through a different set of rose-tinted glasses. They may offer their own spin, but multiple spins will always give me an upper hand in seeking the truth in the reportage of events.

I beg you, please, to not permit a mega-merger trend within the media. We've got too much "mega" intruding in our lives already.

Sincerely,

Diane Cadonau
1012 NW 1st Place
Hillsboro, OR 97124

dcadonau@aol.com

From: Yallayalla2@cs.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 4:11 PM
Subject: stop the madness!

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you today to express my opinion on the state of the FCC and media today. As I understand it, an upcoming meeting of the FCC will determine if media corporations will be allowed to own more of a market. This would be a travesty if this is allowed to happen. As an American, I treasure my freedoms, especially that of freedom of press. If large concentrations of newspapers, TV stations, and publishers are allowed to be controlled by a few corporations, then those corporations would be allowed to decide what is printed and how. This is not a free press. Please do everything in your power to prevent this. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ryan Dunn, Clinton, NY

From: Robertson, Valerie
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 4:41 PM
Subject: RE: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings (Thanky ou for your message concerning medi

I've forwarded it to a couple of people. I have heard, however, that there is very little chance of stopping this, and that upsets me very much.

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Copps [mailto:MCOPPS@fcc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2003 1:22 PM
To: vrobertson@mccarter.com
Subject: Re: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings (Thank you for your message concerning medi

Thank you for your message concerning media consolidation. I am happy to know that you are participating in the debate over this issue and hope that you will continue to do so in the weeks leading up to the June 2 vote and thereafter. We must come to grips with this issue because it is so important not only for the kinds of entertainment we get from our media, but also from the standpoint of what it means for the news and information that sustains our country's democratic dialogue. I hope you will talk about this issue with your friends, neighbors, local media and government officials. Again, thanks for getting in touch.

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From: Bill Gibson
To: Mike Powell
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 4:47 PM
Subject: FCC Hearing

Please hold public hearings on rule changes to further deregulate the print and electronic media.
Further deregulation would mean monopolization. This is not good. We need more of a free market in broadcasting and publishing.
Please see that the FCC enforces the "public interest" requirement when issuing and renewing licenses.

Sincerely,
G. William Gibson
208 Monte Vista
San Clemente, CA 92672
gbillg@fea.net

From: HeidiMul@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 4:57 PM
Subject: FCC

Dear Chairman Powell:

I understand you are planning to move ahead on June 2 with changes to the current rules governing media ownership that would allow corporations to own and control various media sources. I am opposed to this idea.

I listen to community and public radio stations almost entirely and appreciate their individual points of view on the news as well as diverse local programming. I do not want my choices to be neutralized by corporate ownership of various media sources including print media and broadcasting.

In the interests of democracy, I support the availability of many voices speaking freely in all forms of media without the influence of corporate ownership. I do not want my newspaper, radio and TV news to come from the same source and say the same things. This is an invitation to government propaganda and censorship to affect American everyday lives in order to benefit those who hold power and wealth. I support the voice of the people, of many opinions, in a free society. I especially support the most independent, grassroots and homegrown community media sources as a true reflection of the American right of free speech.

Please reconsider and maintain the current rules of ownership.

Thank you,

Heidi Muller
Washington, NJ
Email: heidimul@aol.com

CC: heidimul@aol.com, kabernet@fcc.gov, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Lehman, Brock
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 5:06 PM
Subject: FCC Regulation

Dear Sir,

I know you probably won't read this email but in the off-chance you may see this I want to express my opinion on the deregulation of corporate ownership of mass media. I teach high school social studies, particularly world history. I've spent the entire year teaching my students the value of a free press. What is the first thing a tyrant does upon gaining control of a country? That's right, regulation of the media. I strongly feel the greatest asset to this country is the ability of any man, woman, or child to express their views and the easiest way to accomplish this is through the local paper. What happens when a corporation buys out the local paper and decides for me what news is fit to print? What happens when they decide whose side to present in a court case or whether or not some "criminal activity" is worthy of my attention? Through subtle hints, writers can easily influence populations--I know because I've done it before. One of my class lectures was information about the Jewish people prior to World War II. I spent 40 minutes teaching the students information I made up the night before; not one time did they question me or my information. You don't have to wonder why--teachers are people that always tell the truth, or so we think. The same is true of reporters and writers; they just aren't supposed to lie but human nature means we are not perfect nor are our views unbiased. It seems to me that we've forgotten the real purpose of newspapers and newsbroadcasts. These aren't out to make money--although people like Ted Turner and the Disney Corporation seem to think the news only means dollar signs. Newspapers began as the watchdog of society, as a mouthpiece for someone wanting change or structure. Obviously, these people were biased, but a small town of two or three thousand people may have three or four printshops--and there was no way those editors would sell out their morals for a dollar. To them, the written word was power, not the almighty dollar. The simple fact of the matter is corporations make money--if they are not successful, they are swallowed by bigger corporations. Fact loses to popularity and with the death of fact comes the death of freedom. Please let the country know the FCC is not for sale and freedom is worth more than money.

Brock E. Lehman
Sioux Center High School

From: Frank Gesinski
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 5:18 PM
Subject: ** Please Consider **

Dear Commissioner Copps:

I feel that the contemplated relaxation of media regulations would not be in the public interest, nor mine. Three or four months ago, the two local Tulsa radio stations that I listened to 90% of the time both changed formats. The first was the only full-time classical music station in Tulsa -- it has not yet been replaced by another classical station. The second was a small AM station that played music for the '30s, '40s, and 50's. Both of these stations were subsumed by large media corporations that, for the sake of profit, changed the formats of these stations.

Now, the only choices we have in Tulsa are rock, hard rock, country and western, and talk radio. None of these formats interest me. The number of stations of each genre should be limited in locality, instead. Our local PBS station is a good one, but it broadcasts classical music only in the evenings.

If you further loosen the regulations of the media, I fear that my options will further decline. We now have only one newspaper here. If some conglomerate such as Clear Channel Communications bought that newspaper, I shudder to think how the balance of news printed would shift, one way or the other.

Please do not vote for the relaxation of the regulations.

Sincerely,
Frank W. Gesinski
Tulsa, Oklahoma

From: Michael Schmitt
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 5:23 PM
Subject: no change

Dear Michael J. Copps,

I am a advertising photographer in Portland, OR. I feel the upcoming decision to relax the rules of ownership of media would be not only terrible for my business, but the economy as a whole. What good will this do for the nation as a whole and those that live here. I see free speech being threatened. I could go on and on, but most of all I see this as being a really bad move for a already terrible economy.

Thanks for your consideration,

Michael Schmitt
503-493-4252
4126 NE 16th Ave.
Portland, OR 97211

From: Herb Rathsack
To: Commissioner Adelstein, kjweb@fcc.gov, Michael Copps, Kathleen Abernathy, Mike Powell
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 6:08 PM
Subject: Please Don't Trash Our Independent Speech!

FCC,

The concentration of information flow into too few hands is not in the interest of a healthy Democracy. The lack of mention of your important vote by the media (other than PBS) is an excellent example what is already starting to happen!

Polls show that, when made aware, a high majority of our citizens are against the proposed changes.

I urge you to REJECT the current set of proposals.

Herbert T Rathsack
13120 Brandon Way Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

From: Lisa Kohane
To: KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein, Michael Copps,
kabernet@fcc.gov, Mike Powell, Campaignlaw, FOIA, FCC FCCINFO
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 6:32 PM
Subject: STOP 6/2 Travesty

This redistribution of the media to the private sector to program us is wrong and is not only NOT what the FCC is in place for but you personally have NO right to vote as a representative against the citizens who depend on you to act on their behalf. Clearly this entire process is being rushed through so that we citizens are left with no choice but to sit back, watch and swallow whatever you and the programmers decide should be shoved down our throats.

No one died and left you a monarchy! Stop acting like it! You are W-R-O-N-G.

From: Recycledx2@aol.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 6:40 PM
Subject: (no subject)

DO NOT ALLOW THE CORPORATIONS TO HAVE MORE POWER, IT WILL THREATEN OUR
DEMOCRACY.
EVERARD DODGE
ROCKLAND, MAINE 04841

From: ruemate
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, May 29, 2003 6:50 PM
Subject: <No Subject>

I am opposed to any further deregulation of the U.S. media because of the harm it will bring to our democracy. Relaxation of ownership restrictions for radio stations across America means that more of the people's public airwaves can and will be controlled by only a few big media conglomerates. Since the media deregulation in 1996, companies like Clear Channel were able to go from owning 50 (est.) stations around the country to over 1200. They merged with SFX entertainment and have been putting smaller competition out of business. Scenarios similar to this are happening in the television and newspaper industries. If companies that own radio stations can merge with television and newspaper companies (under the new deregulation act), there will be hardly any competition. It would be like one big machine dictating what the American people see, hear and read. There would be no competition, and with no competition that means no jobs. There would be no diversity. Diverse information keeps the mindsets of people well rounded on issues affecting the country, which ultimately affect them. If one news agency reports inaccurately, we should be able to have other news agencies reporting as well because then there is a better chance for obtaining accurate reporting. Not having them threatens the health of our country. The right to freedom of speech will be threatened even more than it is now, which will affect, for the worse, local music scenes, independent voices, the security of communities, and communication between elected officials and voters (the list of concerns goes on). This is un-American. We do not need our media deregulated any more. We need regulation to preserve our public resources and to preserve our freedom of speech. I call on the FCC to not allow any more deregulation. If the FCC rules in favor for more deregulation, I seriously question their ability to protect the American people's freedom and democracy and will see them as hardly any better than the terrorists who threaten our democracy. Concerned citizen of Minnesota